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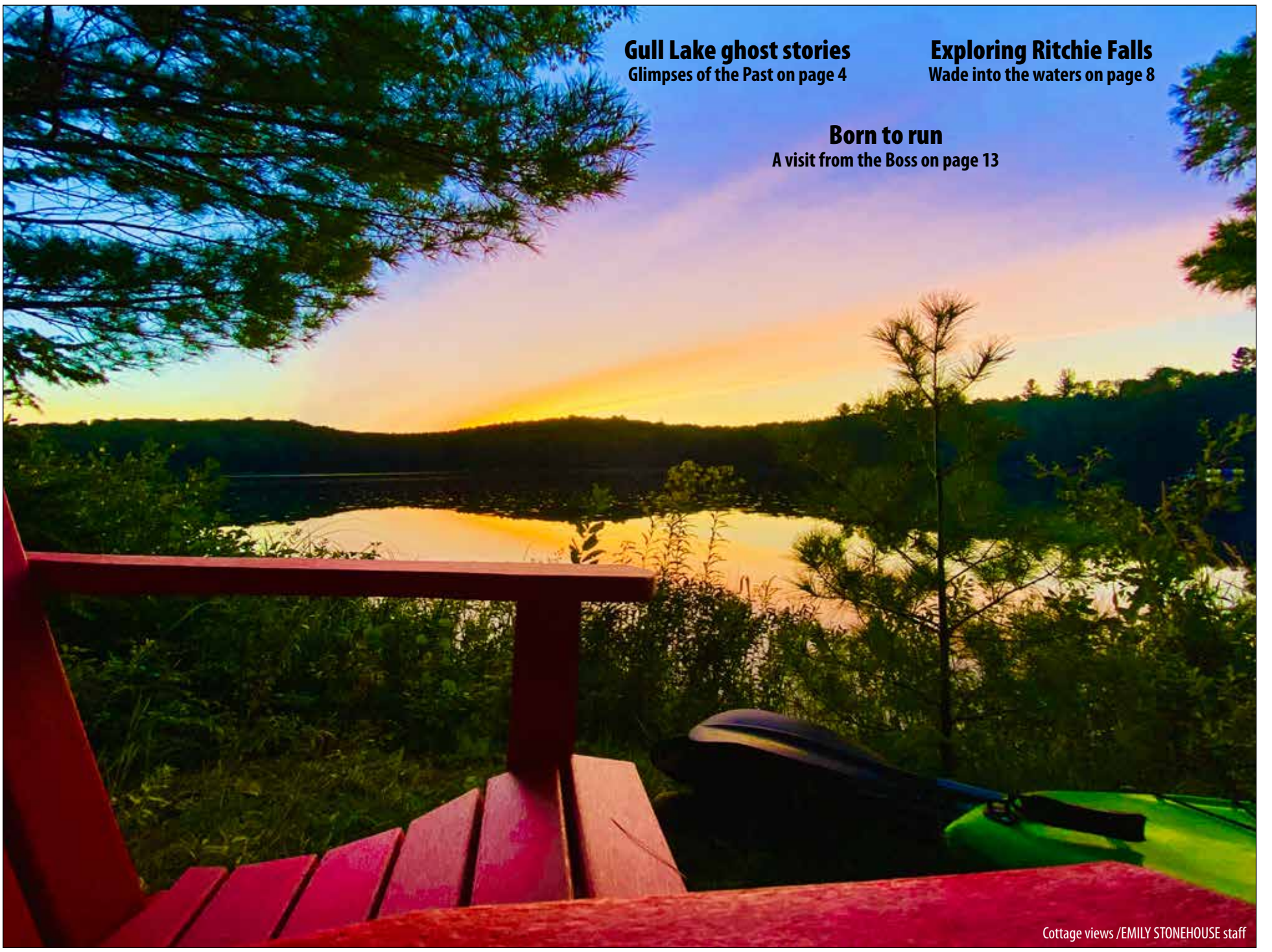

Gull Lake ghost stories
Glimpses of the Past on page 4

Exploring Ritchie Falls
Wade into the waters on page 8

Born to run
A visit from the Boss on page 13

Cottage views /EMILY STONEHOUSE staff

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Dust Detectives, Mystery 2:

What's a blacksmith?

DEB REED
Wind in the Attic

HI. THOM here. Rebecca's brother. We call her *Reba*. That's how she pronounced it as a baby. She's pretty cool for a twin. She's got her own interests, and now, her own room. That helps with all the separate stuff we like to do. She makes songs with Gran, and I make comics alone.

There's one TV in the house, and it's huge. We don't pay attention to it during the day. It streams movies, and we prep buttered popcorn to share. Pops usually joins us, since he loves Friday *animation* night. He munches away, and talks right through the whole film!

Pretty amazing for 100. He still sells handmade birdhouses. We also buy him puzzles and LEGO, although the box says it's for *Ages 4 - 99.* But dad says they've changed that to 100+. I've noticed that Pops' fingers are getting crooked. It kind of makes me sad. I love his stories. I love his teasing. He doesn't understand why I put neon streaks in my hair! I love him.

I'm making a mystery comic series about his antiques. Pops is *COLLECTORMAN!,* and Reba and I are *THE DUST DETECTIVES!* He doesn't need special masks, costumes or weapons. He doesn't fly, read minds or anything like that. He's just my Pops, and a proud lifelong farmer.

Reba and I are in his barn again this morning. We want another challenge. So I spot a weird rusty thing on top of an old wooden trunk. I have no idea what this is. We begin our speculation:

***Who** made this? **What** caused the rust? **Where** did Pops find it? **When** was it used? **Why** is it heavy? **How** was it important?*

We almost immediately figure out answers by using our own senses. We even smell it.

It's heavy because it's iron. It's rusty because it was damp. It wasn't factory-made since it's a bit warped. Or did something else do that? And why would Pops keep this?

Reba agrees that we should take the object to him and ask for details since we have more questions than answers.

Pops is enjoying a Red Rose tea with one *Jam Jam* cookie at his kitchen table. He's been waiting for us. But he's not sure what to say after he sees the antique. He scratches his head and tries answering:

I can give you an educated guess. It was definitely forged by a blacksmith, and it's definitely pretty old. Maybe the 1800s? Pioneer times. I'm thinking it came with leather reins which have rotted away. I found it when I first cleaned up my pasture. My thought back then was that it belonged to a carriage or harness.

Thanks, Pops. That's good enough. But what's a blacksmith? There's one in Gran's favourite Irish tune.

Pops nods and explains: *Blacksmiths. They used fire to hammer iron into horseshoes, cook pots, tools, nails and things.*

It'll sure be challenging to draw this antique into a comic. Our first unsolved mystery?

Author's Note: Our second read-aloud newspaper series for today's kids investigates and honours the generations before them. Past lifetimes were as meaningful then as our current realities are to us. Kids everywhere are naturally curious, and they love a good historical mystery. Everyone does!

Artifacts are not always recognizable to newer generations. In this series, twin detectives (you might recognize them from Series 1), apply their former teacher's learning approach to examine their great-grandfather's antique collection. There's a real photo every time, questions, speculation, informed answers, and hopefully, revived knowledge around what was once very important to our elders. Enjoy!

The following inserts are being distributed with County Life this week:

Rexall *

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An angler's guide to measuring bass

NOW THAT bass season is upon us, most anglers will start to exchange fishing stories about the fish they caught – and even the ones they claimed to. I think it is fair to say that some of these verbal exchanges will be fraught with inaccuracies.

STEVE GALEA
Beyond 35

I do not blame the angler for this. That would be unfair. It is not their fault that the correct and honest way to measure fish was never taught in school. Instead, we were taught things we would never use in real life such as math, English, physics and science. The only good news is we weren't taught ethics either. And that is why I am now able to explain to you the fundamentals of how to properly measure a bass.

Let's start with the basics. To be truly accurate in his or her exaggeration, an angler must honestly measure the length of his or her bass in inches. The truth is integral to the process. For, if we do not begin with that, how can we stretch it.

Here's a real-life example.

Last week, I initially caught and released a 13-inch bass. I know it was that size because I measured it. But I say initially, because determining the size of bass is not as easy as just measuring it honestly. If it were, everyone would do it.

In fact, it is a complex process that requires time, creativity, and imagination – and no credible witnesses. Or failing that, a witness who owes you money.

Back to that 13-inch bass …

Since I was fishing alone, it automatically gained five inches almost immediately after I released it. But, as any angler will tell you, it does not end there. You see, every time you tell the story, a fish magically grows an inch.

So, if we remember our math, a 13-inch bass caught by a solo angler who released it and told the story five times is how big?

If you said 23 inches, you're catching on. And if you said, 28, you are invited to fish with me any time.

Of course, there are even more things to remember than that. For example, if another angler approaches and discloses that he or she caught a 24-inch fish before you even mentioned the size of yours, you are, according to the Angler's Code, mandated to upgrade your fish to 25 or even 26 inches – which is huge for an actual bass but only average size for an exaggerated one.

On the other hand, the angler that spoke first is locked into the 24-inch fish, at least until you are out of earshot.

At that point his or her fish will grow to the size of 27 inches, just in case someone else has already heard the story of your 26-inch fish.

There are other hard and fast rules too.

For example, a bass that is lost in the fight almost always starts at 20-inches – 24, if there are no credible witnesses. And, if two anglers get a double-header and simultaneously land identically puny fish, they immediately both grow to 18 inches as soon as the first person on shore asks.

The point here is that measuring an unwitnessed bass is not an exact science. If it were, it might have been taught in school.

In hindsight, thank goodness it wasn't.

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Glimpses of the past

Early view of Deep Bay

The manufacturer of this sepia-toned real photo postcard is unknown. The AZO markings on the back indicate that it was produced between 1926 and the early 1940s. It likely dates to the late 1930s.

Looking east, it provides a panorama of Deep Bay, the northern tip of Sugar Island, and the far shore of Gull Lake. At the near end of the bay, the road splits to the left going out to the northern side, and to the right heading down towards Little Gull Lake and Moore Falls.

RUSS WUNKER
Glimpses of the Past

In the foreground is a portion of the Pogue Farm. The Pogue family first moved into the area in the 1880s and over time accumulated more than 500 acres of land.

As early settlers on Gull Lake, the family provided many cottagers with milk and butter. In the 1970s, the Baggs sisters, summer residents at Miners' Bay since 1908, recalled paddling their canoe over to the farm for supplies.

Sadly, a Pogue family member is the subject of early Gull Lake lore. Mabel Boyce, aged 22, lost her way during a storm when searching for a family cow in the 1920s. Several days later, timbermen from the Gull River Lumber Company found her body among the driftwood on Gull Rock. The coroner ruled that she had lost her bearings during the storm and fallen off a cliff and drowned. Since then, some maintain that during storms they can hear the voice of "The Ghost of Gull Lake".

Nature in your backyard

County Life welcomes photo submissions depicting life in the Highlands. Email emily@ haliburtonpress.com. Please ensure images are high resolution - 200 dpi, 10 inches at its longest edge.

Fox with a snack by Tammy Nash

Mother duck and babies napping by Rob Barnes

Water Lilly by Rob Barnes

Seagull and heron by Jill Moulton

Time for a tune

Ukulele players united at the Haliburton Legion as a part of their Pluck On performance on Friday, July 10. The sweet sounds drew a supportive crowd as they shared their work. /Tim Tofflemire, special to County Life

Pluck On Ukelele Concert with all the workshop participants in the back for the full concert. /IVY KATZ staff

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Send your letters to the editor to emily@haliburtonpress.com. Letters must be signed and include a phone number.

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Scary hot

MY OFFICE is propped on a second storey of an old building, looking out over Head Lake.

On Tuesdays, there's a buzz to the community. The weekly Farmers' Market stalls set up and primed for a busy day of foot traffic.

EMILY STONEHOUSE
County Life Editor

But today, a murky cloud hangs over the heads of each vendor. A few are packing it in early, while stores are announcing closures just after noon. Evening music, shifting to an indoor venue, children's sports cancelled until the cloud breaks.

It's hot. Too hot. Scary hot.

Many of us are no stranger to heat waves. They happen. It's part of summer.

But this heat is hitting differently. It's not the romanticized heat that's quelled with a chilled bottle of wine and a splash in the lake.

It's all-encompassing. It dries the air in your lungs, weighs on your shoulders, stings your eyes. And today, with the thin whisper of a breeze that usually carries something that resembles reprieve, a thick smog curls its way around the community.

Yellow and hazy, the smoke licks around the frazzled and crisped leaves, soaking into the pores of the place.

It's hot. Too hot. Scary hot.

When days like these happen, I often start to spiral. While my mind struggles to connect the dots of each day-to-day task, sluggish and clunky from overheating, I fear for the future.

What world have we created for our kids? Those consequences we once read about but seemed too far off, a not my problem, not right now, don't be a downer, live in the present sort of problem seems to have finally caught up.

And the scariest part? The damage is done. The air we breathe today is the result of many who exhaled before us. Practices and priorities unaligned, misconstrued.

There's no magic wand I can wave that will iron the wrinkles of yesterday. And as we look forward, making every effort to peer through the smog, we have to remain hopeful. We have to do our part, to believe in better, to encourage one more step to a new day.

We can point fingers. To conglomerates, to politicians, to box stores and pollutants and conspiracy theorists who have led us astray.

But there's no real point in seething. In dwelling in a place of discomfort as we burn. We have to learn to breathe through the flames.

As I look out my window, on the second storey of an old building, I wonder who else looked through this glass.

Our walls, doors, and windows are original to the build, dating back well over 100 years ago. Every day, I prop my window open, and wonder how many others did the same before me.

Did they crack it each and every day, hoping for the cool mist from the lake to weave upstairs? Was there fear, as they looked afar, smoke rolling over the hills?

And did they dream, the same as I, about what will come next? About the future, the uncertainty, the what ifs?

I can't help but wonder.

Because it's hot.

Too hot.

Scary hot.

Top 10 signs that it is way too hot

SUMMER HAS finally arrived in no uncertain terms. That means that some days are hot and some days are way too hot. Here are the top 10 signs that indicate it is way too hot.

STEVE GALEA
Humour Columnist

1. You see a person watering their lawn in a string bikini. And it fits him horribly.
2. You thought the bald guy in front of you was a red head.
3. The recommended sun screen is SPF plaster.
4. Your bird bath is now a bird sauna.
5. Your iced tea becomes regular tea.
6. The wax in your ears melts.
7. Your block of ice is lukewarm.
8. You successfully barbecue a full meal before realizing the propane tank isn't hooked up.
9. The turkey vultures are grilling their road kill – on the road.
10. Turtles are seen sprinting across the black top.

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Leaf

Heart- shaped leaf springing from the trunk of its tree,
apart from the other leaves fluttering on their branches above it, waving like tiny hands in the breeze,
morning Sky leaking light, dappling the tree whose name I don't know,
growing alongside birches on the side of the road, clusters of daisies beaming up at them,
as their Heart-shaped faces mingle with birch leaves, high up in Air, branches that once were bare, frothing with green,
invisible birds chirping in the billowing sleeves of trees, I cup my face up towards morning Sun,
listening to this summer zephyr weave its way through the branches of trees,
wondering whether there's a language of leaves, that only they understand,
tiny hands waving at one another from branch to branch, from tree to tree,
I listen to the rustling as breeze strokes the skin of leaves, blinking my eyes open, drinking in this sea of green that sways above me, millions of leaves fluttering on their branches in the swath of forest that sprawls beyond the road,
slants of sunlight sliding through the spaces between trees, illuminating the green skin of leaves,
as if they glow from within, light painting blades of grass, and the faces of daisies that smile up at me,
as I linger on the side of the road, feel sunlight, warm as fur, swathe me from the crown of my head
to the tops of my potato toes, poking from my flip-flops, feeling the summer zephyr slinking through me,
loosening my limbs and the coil inside me, that once roiled like a rising River,
now flowing unburdened and free,
a lightness in every step and Breath, summer blooming Outside and within,
how tempted I am to pluck a bouquet of daisies from the earth and bring them Home,
but I realize that they already are, so I leave them be, to grow here on the side of the road,
among the tall grasses that sway and the birches whose branches are drenched with birdsong, trickling through Air,
gentle as morning breeze, the leaves of the Heart-shaped tree whose name I don't know, waving down at me
like tiny hands, wondering whether there's a language of leaves and between the trees,
deeper than words that are barely heard, wishing I could understand, as I stand here on the side of the road,
facing the trunk of the tree, admiring the lone Heart-shaped leaf springing from its trunk,
while the rest of the leaves flutter above it, canopying it in shade, wondering how it came to grow there,
and all the millions of other things that I don't know, feeling Air, pure as a forest stream,
flow through me as I breathe,
my Heart, light as a leaf, fluttering up there in the summer breeze.

Sylvie Kalenda

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Naturally Yours

Tiger swallowtail butterfly by Ed Poropat

Hummingbird moth by Ed Poropat

Ritchie Falls

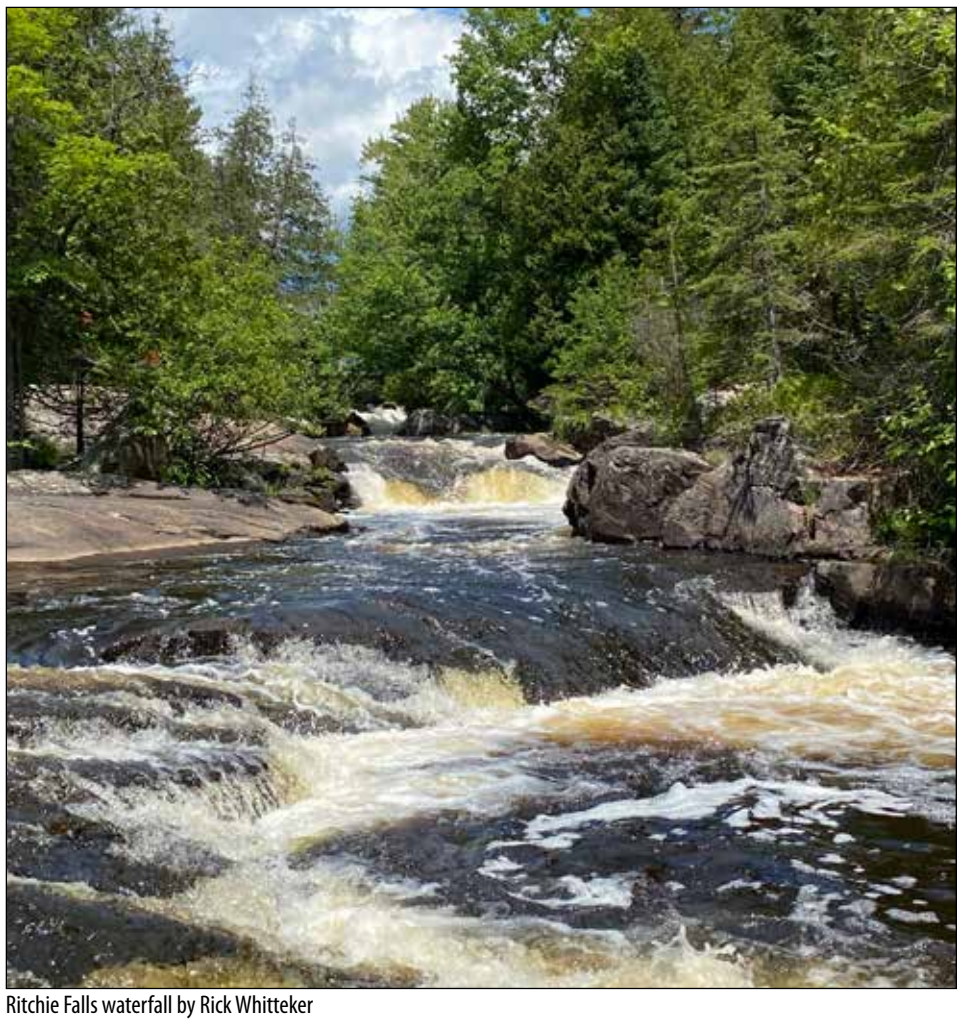
ABOUT FIVE kilometres in length, starting and ending at a granite bench, this unofficial trail provides hikers with three distinct experiences – let's just call it the Ritchie Falls Loop.

Starting at the intersection of the Rail Trail and Ritchie Falls Road off Gelert Road in Lochlin, there are spots to park along the road near this intersection. On the Rail Trail and heading southwest away from Haliburton, this trail leads to Ritchie Falls, one of the nicest, accessible water falls in the Haliburton Highlands. You can complete the loop by walking Ritchie Falls Road, a surprisingly interesting and peaceful rural road in the heart of Haliburton County.

RICK WHITTEKER
Naturally Yours

My hiking experiences on the Rail Trail seldom disappoint. However, I am selective about when I go, choosing a sunny day and avoiding the weekend, the wildflowers along the trailside provide ample feeding sites for many butterflies and other insects. The beautiful tiger swallowtail butterfly is on full display right now. These yellow and black beauties were just one part of the visual feast – the rail trail was full of butterfly flutter on this late June day. Monarchs, morning cloaks, sulphurs and many other small butterfly species where seen sampling nectar and trail surface minerals along this section of trail.

Red osier dogwood flowers attracted attention as did milkweed flowers. Surprisingly, the tall stalks of purply-blue flowers of the non-native viper's bugloss were popular with both bumblebees and swallowtails. I was stunned by the vibrancy of a recently hatched tiger swallowtail, its intense yellow with rich black markings were magnified by the bland, grey gravel background of the trail. Its flight pattern was a mesmerizing aerial dance – both graceful and agile.



Ritchie Falls waterfall by Rick Whitteker

Several swallowtails and morning cloaks found damp areas of the trail to probe for minerals. Called puddling, it is also common to see groups of tiger swallowtails on animal droppings, mining for amino acids – males need these minerals and proteins; they are essential for their survival and reproduction.

I also spotted one of the coolest looking insects I have seen. If a bumble bee and a hummingbird were to ever mate, their offspring would be the hummingbird moth. Happy to see one, I was impressed to see four on my hike! My first response to seeing the hummingbird clearwing moth was "what the heck was that!?" as they hover over flowers like a hummingbird. Characteristics like fuzzy torsos and clear wings that flap rapidly into a blur when hovering near flowerheads makes this moth a unique sighting. They use their long, crooked probing tongue to access nectar, a flexible version of a hummingbird bill. A daytime feeder, it is hard to image this fairytale-like insect being grouped in with the moths I know.

Along this section of the loop, the Burnt River meanders close to the rail trail giving turtles access to the soft gravel shoulders which they use as nesting sites. Every close encounter with the river along the trail, I found several disturbed gravel depressions – turtle nesting beds – some already raided, others not. I silently cheered on the underdog hatchlings in their quest for survival.

Hikers will hear the falls long before arriving. Ritchie Falls is a tumbling set of pool and drop rapids which starts with a powerful falls and a churning pool under the bridge on Ritchie Falls Road. The beauty of this turbulent section of the Burnt River is the wonderful variety of vantage points – places to rest, picnic, swim and exploring. Smooth, flat rocks hug the side of the river and, for the adventurous, there are spots where you can enjoy a shoulder and back massage by working yourself below the rock shelves and sitting under the cascading flow. Often a destination for artists, the scenery is magnificent with many spots to admire the natural beauty.

I found a cedar backrest out of the sun; the soft ground was a fine resting location to take in the sights and sounds of the waterfall and frothing pool below. The shear rockface across the river with a thick topping of eastern cedars amplified the cacophony of tumbling whitewater.

After a drink and a rest, it was time to do the final leg of this loop. Ritchie Falls Road is a dead-end road that offers a quaint rural walk. From the falls, the gravel road starts off with treed shoulders and the occasional homestead. After a short distance, a large wetland appears on the south side of the road. With open water and dense shrub-like vegetation, this huge expansive view changes the scenery for walkers.

Old barns, farm fields, horses and donkeys can be found along the paved section after the wetland. A commercial honeybee colony and a flower farm worked by an extended family can also be seen along this quiet roadway.

Although a great driveable destination, a hike to Ritchie Falls provides a more complete experience, with lots to see on route. With a destination like Ritchie Falls, the hike is simply a bonus of fresh air, exercise and interesting discoveries.

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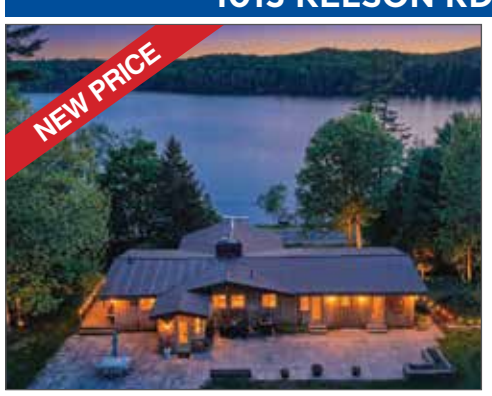

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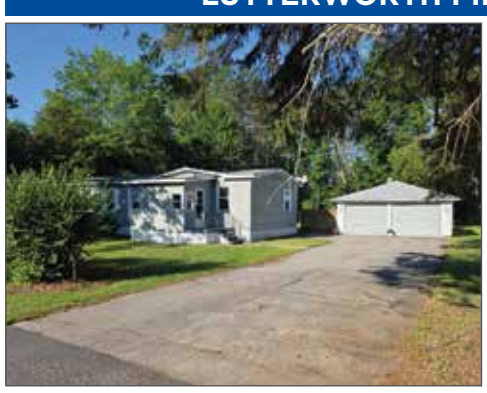

Minutes from Minden. Layout includes a spacious primary bedroom with ensuite and a large second bedroom, plus a family room, a sunroom, and mudroom. Property offers a deep, private backyard, detached 2-car garage with a rear workshop/storage shed.

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Nature in your backyard

County Life welcomes photo submissions depicting life in the Highlands. Email emily@ haliburtonpress.com. Please ensure images are high resolution - 200 dpi, 10 inches at its longest edge.

Large moose by Tammy Nash

Rackety Lane fox by Kevin Butt

Sitting loon by Tammy Nash

Stormy day by Jill Moulton

Rainbow over Fort Irwin by Randy Barber

Turkey by Rhonda LaMantia

Snapper by Yvonne Friend

Bumblebee by Jill Moulton

A mish-mash of summer scrawlings from Maybelle, don'tcha know

MAYBELLE'S
Fireside Stories

DEAR READER,

Another beautiful day in the neighbourhood – Lake WhaddayathinkImean and its many-lakes neighbours. Why if I'm not jumping out of bed at five o'clock in the morning like a farmer watering my flowers and tomato patch. Even Bogart, my bear, is at the ready to help. Well, he doesn't really help. He just likes to be there, watching me hose everything to life, listening to Bad Bunny and his favourite stand up comics through his headset which he wears like a teenager.

That bear. Could I love him more. I think naught!

Vilma Yucch decided that Picasso needed some competition, so she just finished painting her house. And I don't mean like a professional painter would do. Vilma's house has a hand-painted mural that covers the entire outside walls AND inside walls. It's totally immersive. And in her words: "pychiedelic, Maybelle, without the drugs." All I know is, I can only visit for five minutes at a time before I feel queasy and need to get outside and hug a tree. But she's loving it, and so is her sweetheart, Officer Stanley Penelope McBottom. Well, he SAYS he loves it … but, he'll say anything to keep a smile on his honey's face. It's been eighteen years and they're still gooey-eyed lovebirds.

Twindle Mumbly is not only my dearest friend … he's a deer's best friend. I call him our local "deer whisperer." Why, if he doesn't have names for the deer who come to his door every day. "Why hello, Ethel," he'll say. Or "What are you wanting today, Helen, an apple?"

I asked him, "Twindle, how do you know who's who?" "I know … I know, " he murmurs. And one in particular lets Twindle pet her on the top of her head, don'tcha know. I think deer are the only animals that Twindle won't taxidermy. I mean, that's his business – Lake WhaddayathinkImean Taxidermy & Haberdashery. Why, his dear heart would break to include deer on his list.

Beanpole Starkman is flying overhead in his Tiger Mother biplane like those wings are growing out of his shoulders, don'tcha know. What joy that man feels taking one passenger up at a time up there in the sky showing them some of the 600 lakes that make this part of the country so great. And when he lands, as he is wont to do, on ol' Maybelle's two and a-half acre yard and crashes into my woodshed, why I just roll my eyes and welcome him anyway. We go back a long way, Beanpole and I. So, what's a demolished woodshed between chums? (I'm being kind. It bugs me to no end. But, what's an old gal to do?)

Sybil Beaucannon-Hughes got busy dreaming up some summer fun for the youth of Lake WhaddayathinkImean. Why, if she doesn't have them wearing big ol' white chefs' hats and competing on the lawn at Lake W Park, barbecuing fantasy-inspired hotdogs and burgers, don'tcha know. Imagine chomping down on a hotdog that looks like an alien, or a burger that looks like a hippo in a sombrero. First prize - a round-trip bus trip to Brooklyn Ontario, all expenses paid. Sybil still has her flirt-on and always has at least three local firemen on her arm– Adonis types who gained local recognition appearing topless in the Lake W firemen's calendar, don'tcha know. She's no spring chicken, but she just has a way about her that they can't seem to get enough of. She's like Auntie Mame – vivacious, full of p and vinegar – and they love being around her "vibe".

As for ol' Maybelle – now that we're past the worst of the black flies I am loving summer, and those flies were bad this year. Why I had so many bites on the back of my neck and bites on my head the size of golf balls, I was not a happy camper. But now that most of them are gone, I am loving summer and the freedom it brings. Like being able to fly out the door on a whim without being slowed down having to put on layers of under-clothing, over-clothing, outer-clothing, boots, mitts, a hat, scarf. Oh, and cleats on the bottoms of your boots. YEESH! Just thinking about it makes my blood freeze.

And I put myself on a no-tv diet for a full week. Didn't turn on the tube once. And if I didn't feel a whole lot better for it, too. Finished reading a book I had been picking at for weeks.

I've also been swimming in some swimming holes I had never explored before. Next, tubing down the Gull River in Minden. That's always a hoot and-a-half! And it's so much fun tubing with my friends.

So, here's to summer and all the fun it offers! Enjoy, Dear Reader! Enjoy!

Maybelle's Fireside Stories is written by Jerelyn Craden. "Maybelle's Cure for What Ails You," 21 of Maybelle's best short stories and her novel: "Vessie Flamingo Outshining the Moon" are now available at www.amazon.com.

Legion Events

Branch 624 Wilberforce

Mondays: Open 7 to 10 p.m. July 27 Darts @ 7 p.m., $5/player, Mexican Train Dominos 7 p.m.
Tuesdays: Closed, Special Events Only.
July 28 - Exercise Club @ 1 p.m.
Wednesdays: Open 2 to 10 p.m.
July 29 - Darts at 2 p.m., $5/player, $10 LA Quick supper from 5 to 6:30 p.m.
Thursdays: Open 2 to 10 p.m.
July 23, 30 - Horsehoes 7 p.m., $5/person
July 23 - HHHS Social Rec at 10 am
Fridays: Open 2 to 11 p.m. July 31 Wings and Jam Session 5 to 8 p.m. $15/lb, July 10 - Fish & Chips 5 to 8 p.m., 1pc - $15 2pc - $20,
July 24 – Cannelloni dinner and live music, 5 to 8 p.m. - $10
Saturdays: Open 2 to 7 p.m.
July 25 – 100th Celebration, opening at noon, Kids Karaoke 12 to 1 p.m., Tree Planting 1 to 2 p.m., Live Band 2 to 4 p.m., July 18, 25 - Meat Draw at 3 p.m. $1/ticket,
Sundays: Closed, Special Events Only.
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Branch 441 Kinmount

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Branch 129 Haliburton

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Branch 636 Minden

Lunch - Monday to Friday
Monday: Rug Hookers every second week. Bid Euchre 1 to 3 p.m.
Thursday: Cribbage 10 a.m. to noon, No Darts for the Summer. Euchre 7 to 9 p.m.
Every other Friday: Karaoke 8 - 11 p.m.
Friday - Full menu 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Fish and Chips and Wings 4 to 7 p.m..
Saturday All Day Breakfast 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. with three Meat draws at 9:30 a.m.
Call ahead any day for take-out: 705-286-4541.
Schedules are subject to change without notice. Check our Facebook page Minden Legion Branch 636

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Kennisis Lake Marina welcomed the Bruce Springsteen cover band, Glory Days, to the site on July 11. "The band's lineup is exclusively composed of experienced concert musicians, able to recreate some of the classic songs and performances that were, and still are, Springsteen's trademark. This is without a doubt one of the best touring acts, one that has a Springsteen look-alike fronting the band," shared the marina's website. The venue will be hosting a number of other live music opportunities over the coming summer weeks. /TIM YANO staff photographer

Haliburton Rotary

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Tuesday, August 4, 2026
Head Lake Park

Haliburton Rotary Club

Join us for free, family-friendly fun in the park

4:00 - 7:30 Free kids' activities, face painting, cotton candy & popcorn
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4:30 Free vanilla ice cream till we run out
6:30 - 8:00 Music in the Park by locally-born sensation **Ryan Van Lee**
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haliburtonrotary@gmail.com 705-455-2037

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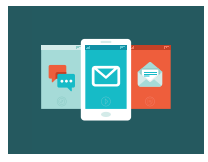

Have a thought, comment or opinion you'd like to share?

Send a letter to the editor to
emily@haliburtonpress.com

Community Events

Send your event listing to classifieds@haliburtonpress.com

Christmas in July!!
When: July 1 to 31
Where: Canoe FM (739 Mountain St.) or the Lily Ann Thrift Shop (33 York St.)
The Haliburton Food Bank is fundraising throughout the month of July to raise awareness about its needs. You can help by donating a new, unwrapped toy or cash donations at Canoe FM or the Lily Ann Thrift Shop, or by e-transferring funds to 4csfoodbank@gmail.com. Check out the store in July for sales on Christmas Decoration and face painting with Santa during midnight madness. Every Wednesday this month from 11 a.m. to noon Santa's helper invites you to drop in to the Lilly Ann and "cool off" with Christmas Music!

Politicians, Old Man Ontario, and the Chief
When: July 22, 8 to 9 p.m.
Where: Miners' Bay Church, at the foot of the Rock Cut, at the corner of Highway 35 and Miners' Bay Rd.
Weekly Wednesday-night history presentations exploring local history, significant past events, and personal stories from the presenter's own life. Each session features a unique theme plus new local stories and vignettes not shared before. The Air Conditioning will be on, and complimentary cold drinks provided. All are welcome!

Classic Vehicle Cruise Night
When: July 23, 5:30 p.m. to Dusk
Where: A&W Parking Lot, Haliburton
Weather Permitting. These events are open to owners of Classic Automobiles and the people who love them.

A 1950's Gull Lake Guest Experience
When: July 28, 8 to 9 p.m.
Where: Miners' Bay Church, foot of Rock Cut, corner of Hwy 35 and Miners' Bay Rd.
Weekly Wednesday-night history presentations exploring local history, significant past events, and personal stories from the presenter's own life. Each session features a unique theme plus new local stories and vignettes not shared before. The Air Conditioning will be on, and complimentary cold drinks provided. All are welcome!

Classic Vehicle Cruise Night
When: July 30, 5:30 p.m. to Dusk
Where: Kawartha Dairy, Minden
Weather Permitting. These events are open to owners of Classic Automobiles and the people who love them.

Haliburton Highlands Land Trust Fundraiser Concert
Featuring Thom Lambert
When: Saturday Aug. 1, 7 to 9 p.m.
Where: Haliburton Fleming School of Arts & Design. 297 College Dr, Haliburton
Join HHLT and Thom Lambert for a night of song. Featuring original, locally-brewed songs with a unique flavour: Thom is inspired to write about beauty, small kindnesses, and whisky, sometimes all in the same song. Delivered with a powerful voice that can purr or growl, his observations and stories are delivered with equal parts reverence and wit. Register in advance on haliburtonlandtrust.ca. Admission by donation.

Haliburton Lions' volunteer toll bridge day
Where: Across from the Library on Maple Avenue Road in Haliburton
When: Saturday, Aug. 1, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Come on out and show us your support! Volunteer donations. All donations are used to support our community. For more information go to www.haliburtonlions.com

"Shade Gardening"
When: Aug. 4, 7 p.m.
Where: Minden Community Centre, 55 Parkside St., Minden
Join the Minden & District Horticultural Society to learn about "Shade Gardening" from guest speaker Anna Mizyn, followed by the monthly society meeting. New members welcome!

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Committee prepares for amalgamation of three school boards

by Misty Bennett

The Local Education Improvement Committee (LEIC) has begun to hold a series of public meetings.

The LEIC is a committee created to oversee the amalgamation of the three existing school boards in Haliburton County, Muskoka and Victoria County. The LEIC is comprised of equal representation from the three boards and has been preparing the groundwork for a shared vision and smooth transition to the new District School Board. This team, composed of Chair Cheryl Murdoch (Haliburton), Vice-Chair Russ Spalding (Muskoka) and Co-ordinator Dianne Dalton (Victoria), will take suggestions from the three subcommittees (Human Resources, Business and Education Services) and make recommendations to the larger EIC (Education Improvement Commission).

The LEIC does not have a great deal of power to ensure its suggestions are implemented. However it is expected the group's recommendatios will be noted and duly considered. A great deal of research has been undertaken for this task, says Cheryl Murdoch.

"The three boards have varying programs," she says. "Some schools offer adult education, we don't; we have a musical education program the other boards don't."

These are only two examples of issues to be resolved by the Education Services subcommittee.

The smaller sub-committees have been reporting to the LEIC every two weeks since April 22, and this schedule is expected to continue until the end of November, in preparation for the amalgamation of the school boards on January 1, 1998.

The location of the board office has yet to be decided, however it is known that of the nine trustees on the new board of education, Haliburton County will be represented by a single elected official. Victoria, having the most substantial population will have five members and Muskoka, three. Murdoch believes that there may be a possibility of increasing the number of board members to 10 in order to accommodate a representative of the native population. The Muskoka Board of Education currently has a seat set aside for a First Nations representative.

The LEIC held its first public meeting on July 15 at I.E. Weldon Secondary School in Lindsay. A question and answer period was held to allow the public to voice the concerns and ask questions. These

(more on page 2)

Local donors could help blood shortage

It is time for all good men and women to step forward, roll up their sleeves and lie down.

The call has once again gone out for individuals to attend the summer blood donor clinic. The clinic is scheduled for this Tuesday, July 22, at the Haliburton Legion.

According to a Red Cross spokesman, summer is a difficult time for blood collection. With many people away on holidays, they often miss their scheduled clinic in their home town. As well, the summer activities bring a higher incidence of accidents and injuries, increasing the need for a standby blood supply.

The Red Cross is hoping that healthy individuals between the ages of 17 and 70 will help the organizers reach the target of 220 donations.

The clinic is scheduled for 1:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

(And, if you can't make the Haliburton Blood Donor Clinic, another is scheduled for Thursday, July 24 in Lindsay at the Victoria Park Armouries, 210 Kent Street, from noon to 7:30 p.m.)

16 pound holiday treat for Alberta visitor

by Jerry Grozelle

John Davis drove for 47 hours from his home in Edmonton to spend a few days with his family (parents Pat and Lois Davis of Newcastle, Ontario and sister Andrea and her husband Steve Jowett and their daughters Christina and Kathleen of Cambridge, Ontario) at Cherokee Resort on Hall's Lake. He arrived Tuesday morning, July 15.

The next morning, John and his dad decided to do some fishing. Aside from spending some precious time with his family, catching a lunker lake trout turned out to be an added bonus after the gruelling drive.

The day didn't start well for the Alberta angler. He spent the first part of the voyage repairing his fishing reel and removing several yards of the steel line. The rod and reel John used was one that his dad had won for catching the biggest lake trout from Twelve Mile Lake about 10 years ago.

After getting his equipment problems sorted out, John Davis tied a small silver and gold Williams Wobbler onto the end of the steel line and let it out until he could feel the bait hitting bottom. He reeled in several feet to bring it up off bottom and gave the reel a few more cranks when he felt it hit bottom a second time. He estimates he had about 900 feet of line out when the fish struck.

"It was only about a minute later when the fish hit," Davis said.

That was about 8:30 a.m.

It took about 15 minutes to reel in the big fish.

Davis' fish scale hovered at the 16 pound mark as he hoisted the Halls Lake lunker.

But the scale was only marked in pounds, so he decided to take the trout to Four Seasons Food Mart in Carnarvon, where owner Fred Chapple weighed the fish on an official scale. The verdict : 15.84 pounds (7.2 kilograms).

John Davis of Alberta with the trophy lunker he caught last week in Halls Lake.

The fish measured 34 inches (86.36 centimetres) in length and 20.5 inches (52.07 cm) in girth.

John's brother Jim of Calgary is an avid fisherman and John says he has all the fishing bells and whistles. John's laker has been taken to a local taxidermist and the mount will be a reminder to his brother that you don't need downriggers and depth finders to catch the big ones.

John has only fished Hall's Lake once before. That was three years ago on another family get-together.

"All we caught then was a few small bass," he recalled.

Jon Hill of Minden Live Bait and Tackle said that it is unusual to catch such a big lake trout at this time of year.

"Most of the big fish are caught through the ice," he said.

The biggest lake trout that Hill can remember being caught in the area recently is a 23 pounder caught from Haliburton Lake by Lance Easton this spring right after the ice went out of the lake.

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BED 3 BATH 2+1

KENNISIS LAKE

$998,000 NEW PRICE
MLS #X13432064
BED 4 BATH 3

GRACE LAKE

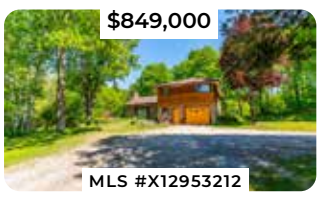
$950,000
MLS #X13505950
BED 3 BATH 1

GULL LAKE

Sold
MLS #X13402142
BED 3+1 BATH 5.5

GOODERHAM LAKE

$874,500
MLS #X12954018
BED 3+2 BATH 2

HIGHWAY 35 MINDEN

$849,000
MLS #X12953212
BED 3 BATH 2

BARNUM LAKE

$775,000 NEW PRICE
MLS #X12110017
BED 3 BATH 1+1

LONG LAKE

$699,900
MLS #X13034386
BED 6 BATH 1+1

KUSHOG LAKE

$695,000
MLS #X13467324
BED 3 BATH 1

KENNISIS RIVER

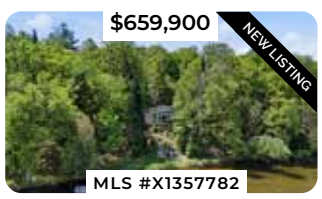
$695,000
MLS #X13135162
BED 3 BATH 1

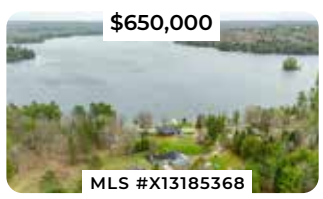
KENNISIS LAKE

$668,000 NEW LISTING
MLS #X13571826
BED 3 BATH 1+1

BIG BROTHER LAKE

$659,900
MLS #13545278
BED 3 BATH 1+1

DRAG LAKE

$659,900 NEW LISTING
MLS #X1357782
BED 3 BATH 1

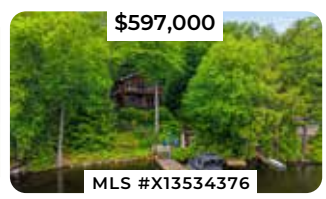
REYNOLDS ROAD

$650,000
MLS #X13185368
BED 3 BATH 2+1

SOUTH PORTAGE LAKE

Sold
MLS #X3420872
BED 2 BATH 1

HALIBURTON VILLAGE

$629,500
MLS #X13481332
BED 2 BATH 2

ALLEN LAKE

$597,000
MLS #X13534376
BED 3 BATH 2

WEST SETTLEMENT RD

$555,000
MLS #X13163216
BED 3 BATH 1

SILVER BEACH

$499,995
MLS #X13113762
BED 2 BATH 2

KUSHOG LAKE, HWY 35

$489,900
MLS #X12604142
BED 3 BATH 2

ALLEN LAKE

$494,500
MLS #X13495804
BED 3 BATH 1

MONROCK LAKE

$2,099,000
MLS #X13177210
BED 3 BATH 1

LITTLE STRAGGLE LAKE

Sold
MLS #X13222622
BED 3 BATH 1

LITTLE STRAGGLE LAKE

Sold
MLS #X13096532
BED 2 BATH 1

COUNTY ROAD 503

$430,000
MLS #X13111224
BED 2 BATH 1

GLAMOR LAKE ROAD

$398,500
MLS #X13122288
BED 2 BATH 1

PROVIDENCE DR

$395,000 NEW LISTING
MLS #X13573000
BED 2 BATH 1+1

WENONA LAKE ROAD

$319,000 NEW LISTING
MLS #X13567494
BED 2 BATH 1

COMMERCIAL OPPORTUNITY

MLS #X13113762
3.48 ACRES

VACANT LAND FOR SALE

Adeline Trail
REDSTONE LAKE
$455,000
31.19 Acres MLS #X13527630

Adeline Trail
REDSTONE LAKE
$425,000
18.4 Acres MLS #X13475286

Haliburton
BOUGHNER RD
$199,900
5.31 Acres MLS #X12110017

Brady Lake Rd
BRADY LAKE
$199,900
0.48 Acres MLS #X13129990

Eagle Lake
STILLS RD
$145,000
1.21 Acres MLS #X13118448

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Linda Baumgartner
Broker of Record
(705) 457-3461
contact@baumgartnerrealty.ca

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SCAN TO VIEW LISTINGS